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Kay Tse Gives Stellar Performance in “Loving the Silent Tears: The Musical” Star-studded benefit show with an uplifting message

Lavishly dressed in a shimmering costume reminiscent of both ancient China and a fantasy world, platinum pop singer **Kay Tse** held the 6,000-plus audience spellbound as she sang in both English and Mandarin her solo number for the new musical, *Loving the Silent Tears*. Some were brought to tears by her song addressed to Buddha, as a group of dancers, some of the best in the United States, gracefully performed about her. Together they portrayed a the culture of China, one of 16 countries visited during the course of this unique Broadway-scale musical held at the Shrine Auditorium in Los Angeles on October 27.

“I think everyone is prepared to open their hearts, because it’s very a touching musical,” said Kay Tse, as she walked the red carpet at the musical’s premiere.

Loving the Silent Tears was a one-time-only charity performance about humanity’s search for inner peace and real happiness. It was directed by Tony-nominated **Vincent Paterson** (known for directing/choreographing Michael Jackson’s *Bad* and Madonna’s *Blond Ambition* world tours) and choreographed by Emmy-winning **Bonnie Story** (*High School Musical*).

The show featured a huge cast of Tony-winning Broadway stars, Grammy-winning pop music icons, and international stars.

They were: 2-time Grammy Award-winning music icon **Jon Secada**, Grammy winner R&B/pop star **Jody Watley**, Tony winners **Debbie Gravitte** and **Kiril Kulish**, Tony nominee **Patti Cohenour**, and Emmy winner and Tony nominee **Liz Callaway**. Also adding their unique voices were Grammy-winning reggae legends **Black Uhuru**, Arab singer **Camellia Abou-Odah**, French singer **Flo Ankah**, actor **Junior Case**, award-winning actor **Luke Eberl**, Vietnamese pop star **Hồ Quỳnh Hương**, Italian tenor **Mark Janicello**, Korean pop star **Brian Joo**, award-winning Israeli singer **Liel Kolet**, Irish soprano **Katie McMahon**, Korean singer **Heather Park**, award-winning Brazilian singer **Fabiana Passoni**, and Persian superstar **Siavash Shams**.

Award-winning playwright Cynthia Ferrell and Frank Evans worked on the book for “Loving the Silent Tears,” which told the story of an older woman named Joy (played by Patti Cohenour) and a young man named Pete (played by Luke Eberl) who are both struggling in ways everyone could relate to. They go on magical train ride through various countries, where they encounter the singers of each distinct culture who express an aspect of their inner journeys.

“The musical’s message is faith, compassion, gratitude, finding your way out of despair, and finding your inner peace and joy,” said the legendary Jody Watley.

The Emmy-winning music director Doug Katsaros noted about the cast, *“It’s an astonishing group of people. Everybody is brilliant.”*

But aside from having top talents, the musical was a meaningful benefit show commemorating humanitarianism, the arts, and peace. The show commemorated the 19th Anniversary of Supreme Master Ching Hai Day to honor the worldwide philanthropic work and peace advocacy of **Supreme Master Ching Hai**. She was unable to attend but gave a video greeting, in which she said, *“To all involved in this musical event, blessed be your dedication to make this world a more enjoyable place, cheering up the masses and giving thanks to Heaven and Earth in this way.”*

It was Supreme Master Ching Hai’s moving collection of poems, “Silent Tears” that inspired 2-time Oscar-winning composer Al Kasha (“Seven Brides for Seven Brothers”) to create this musical. Kasha set her poignant words to music along with other award-winning Broadway and Hollywood composers: 6-time Grammy winner & 2-time Oscar nominee **Jorge Calandrelli** (“Crouching Tiger, Hidden Dragon”), Emmy winner **Doug Katsaros** (“Footloose”), 2-time Grammy winner & Oscar nominee **Henry Krieger** (“Dreamgirls”), Tony and Emmy winner **Don Pippin** (“La Cage aux Folles”), Grammy winner **Nan Schwartz** (“Harry Potter”), and Oscar and 2-time Grammy winner **David Shire** (“Saturday Night Fever”).

Kay Tse was the only singer to perform a song whose lyrics *and* music were composed by Supreme Master Ching Hai. She said about the the song, titled “Talking to a Stone Buddha,” *“I think the piece that I’m going to perform is a really meaningful one, because I’m from Hong Kong, which is a very fast-paced city. And my piece is actually a poem by Supreme Master Ching Hai, and it’s about how to open your heart and to embrace the beauty of the world. I think it’s especially suitable for everyone who wants to find peace for their life, for their soul.”*

Kay Tse said that the event’s celebration of charity had appealed to her. During the benefit program, in accordance with the meaning of Supreme Master Ching Hai Day, three charitable organizations were recognized on stage with donations totaling US\$300,000 from Supreme Master Ching Hai, made on behalf of the musical artists. The three organizations were **Broadway Cares / Equity Fights AIDS, Animal Defenders International, and Worldwide Veterinary Service.**

California State Senator **Curren Price** conveyed commendatory remarks about Supreme Master Ching Hai’s longstanding humanitarian contributions.

Meanwhile, compassion for all beings was also promoted in alignment with the event’s overall message of peace. Kay Tse is one of the vegetarian stars in the cast, along with Italian tenor Mark Janicello and Korean singer Heather Park, a vegan. The incredible evening was emceed by an enthusiastic group of vegan and vegetarian celebrities: TV host and former Miss USA **Susie Castillo**, award-winning actor **Corey Feldman** (“The Goonies”), actress **Kelly Packard** (“Baywatch”), and 2-time Emmy-winning actor **Kristoff St. John** (“The Young and the Restless”).

The vegetarian guest speaker, Academy Award-winning actor **George Chakiris** (“West Side Story”), said during his speech, *“Supreme Master Ching Hai’s message is that all beings...have the right to live in peace and dignity on this beautiful planet; and that each person can do his or*

her part to save lives, better our planet, and be heroes. And my personal way to be a hero and save these important lives is to be a vegetarian.”

Warming up the audience before the show was an amazing feat of entertainment by two Dream World Cirque aerialists portraying angels flying over the audience in the theater—a perfect start to a musical that included the outstanding dancers from Cirque du Soleil. The exquisite visuals were further enhanced by the impressive gliding train created by Emmy-winning set designer **John Iacovelli** (“Peter Pan”) and vibrant, culturally inspired costumes by award-winning costume designer **Sharell Martin** (“Chicago”).

The event concluded with the full cast singing a finale song, “Take Each Other’s Hand,” with music by Al Kasha and lyrics based on Supreme Master Ching Hai’s poetry. The audience joined in by waving star-shaped light wands.

Attendees were also invited to an art exhibition of Supreme Master Ching Hai’s creative works.

After the event, there was a VIP banquet that was catered with delicious gourmet vegan cuisine.

Photographs and footage of the event are freely available for media at www.SilentTearsMusical.com/download.